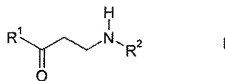


This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (Currently Amended) A monoalkylaminoketone compound of the formula I



in which

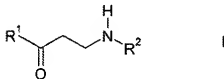
R<sup>1</sup> denotes a saturated, unsaturated or aromatic carbocyclic or heterocyclic radical which is unsubstituted or mono- or polysubstituted by R<sup>3</sup> and/or R<sup>4</sup>, provided that R<sup>1</sup> is not 2,5-dimethyl-3-thienyl.

R<sup>2</sup> denotes alkyl having 1-20 C atoms,

R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup> each, independently of one another, denote H, alkyl or alkoxy having 1-20 C atoms, aryl, aryloxy or COOR<sup>2</sup>, F, Br, OH, CN, NO<sub>2</sub>, N(R<sup>2</sup>)<sub>2</sub> or NHCOR<sup>2</sup>,

or a salt or solvate thereof.

2. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) Process for the preparation of a monoalkylaminoketone compound of the formula I



in which

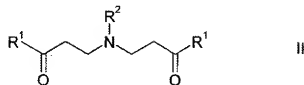
R<sup>1</sup> denotes a saturated, unsaturated or aromatic carbocyclic or heterocyclic radical which is unsubstituted or mono- or polysubstituted by R<sup>3</sup> and/or R<sup>4</sup>, provided that R<sup>1</sup> is not 2,5-dimethyl-3-thienyl.

R<sup>2</sup> denotes alkyl having 1-20 C atoms,

R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup> each, independently of one another, denote H, alkyl or alkoxy having 1-20

C atoms, aryl, aryloxy or COOR<sup>2</sup>, F, Br, OH, CN, NO<sub>2</sub>, N(R<sup>2</sup>)<sub>2</sub> or NHCOR<sup>2</sup>,

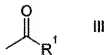
by reacting a compound of the formula II



in which

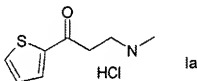
R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> have the meaning indicated above, in the presence of an alkylamine of the formula R<sup>2</sup>NH<sub>2</sub>, in which R<sup>2</sup> has the meaning indicated above.

3. **(Withdrawn)** Process according to Claim 2, in which R<sup>1</sup> denotes phenyl or 2-thienyl.
4. **(Withdrawn)** Process according to Claim 2, in which R<sup>2</sup> denotes methyl, ethyl, n-propyl or isopropyl.
5. **(Withdrawn – Currently Amended)** Process ~~for the preparation of compounds of the formula I~~ according to ~~claim 1~~ claim 2, wherein the pH for the conversion of the compounds of the formula II into the compounds of the formula I is adjusted to about pH 2-7.5 by addition of an alkylamine of the formula R<sup>2</sup>NH<sub>2</sub>.
6. **(Withdrawn-Currently Amended)** Process ~~for the preparation of compounds of the formula I~~ according to ~~claim 1~~ claim 2, wherein the conversion of the compounds of the formula II into the compounds of the formula I is carried out at 0° - 200°C.
7. **(Withdrawn-Currently Amended)** Process ~~for the preparation of compounds of the formula I~~ according to ~~claim 1~~ claim 2, wherein firstly the compound of the formula II is obtained by reaction of a mixture of a formaldehyde source with a corresponding alkylammonium salt and a ketone of the formula III

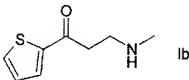


in which  $R^1$  has the meaning indicated in Claim 1,  
in the presence of a strong acid, and the compounds of the formula II obtained in this way are  
employed without further isolation for the preparation of the compounds of the formula I.

8. (Withdrawn) Process for the preparation of compounds of the formula I according to Claim 6, wherein the pH of the strongly acidic reaction mixture comprising the compounds of the formula II is increased to about pH 2-7.5, without further isolation of this compound, by addition of an alkylamine of the formula  $R^2NH_2$ , and the mixture is subsequently warmed.
9. (Withdrawn) Process for the preparation of compounds of the formula I according to Claim 7, wherein the reaction mixture comprising the compounds of the formula II is warmed to  $0^\circ C$  to  $200^\circ C$  after addition of a corresponding alkylamine.
10. (Withdrawn) Process according to claim 2 for the preparation of 3-methylamino-1-phenyl-1-propanone or 3-methylamino-1-(2-thienyl)-1-propanone.
11. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) Process according to ~~claim 1~~ claim 2, wherein an acid-addition salt of the compound of the formula II is employed, and an acid-addition salt of the compound of the formula I is obtained.
12. (Previously presented) A compound of claim 1 which is of the formula Ia:



13. (Currently Amended) A compound of claim 1 which is of the formula Ib:



or a salt or solvate thereof.

**14. (Canceled)**

**15. (Previously presented)** A compound of claim 1, wherein R<sup>1</sup> denotes phenyl or 2-thienyl.

**16. (Previously presented)** A compound of claim 1, wherein R<sup>2</sup> denotes methyl, ethyl, n-propyl or isopropyl.

**17. (Previously presented)** A compound of claim 1, wherein R<sup>1</sup> is selected from: 2- or 3-furyl, 2- or 3-thienyl, 1-, 2- or 3-pyrrolyl, 1-, 2, 4- or 5-imidazolyl, 1-, 3-, 4- or 5-pyrazolyl, 2-, 4- or 5-oxazolyl, 3-, 4- or 5-isoxazolyl, 2-, 4- or 5-thiazolyl, 3-, 4- or 5-isothiazolyl, 2-, 3- or 4-pyridyl, 2-, 4-, 5- or 6-pyrimidinyl, furthermore preferably 1,2,3-triazol-1-, -4- or -5-yl, 1,2,4-triazol-1-, -3- or 5-yl, 1- or 5-tetrazolyl, 1,2,3-oxadiazol-4- or -5-yl, 1,2,4-oxadiazol-3- or -5-yl, 1,3,4-thiadiazol-2- or -5-yl, 1,2,4-thiadiazol-3- or -5-yl, 1,2,3-thiadiazol-4- or -5-yl, 3- or 4-pyridazinyl, pyrazinyl, 1-, 2-, 3-, 4-, 5-, 6- or 7-indolyl, 4- or 5-isindolyl, 1-, 2-, 4- or 5-benzimidazolyl, 1-, 3-, 4-, 5-, 6- or 7-benzopyrazolyl, 2-, 4-, 5-, 6- or 7-benzoxazolyl, 3-, 4-, 5-, 6- or 7-benzisoxazolyl, 2-, 4-, 5-, 6- or 7-benzothiazolyl, 2-, 4-, 5-, 6- or 7-benzisothiazolyl, 4-, 5-, 6- or 7-benz-2,1,3-oxadiazolyl, 2-, 3-, 4-, 5-, 6-, 7- or 8-quinolyl, 1-, 3-, 4-, 5-, 6-, 7- or 8-isoquinolyl, 3-, 4-, 5-, 6-, 7- or 8-cinnolyl, 2-, 4-, 5-, 6-, 7- or 8-quinazolyl, 5- or 6-quinoxalyl, 2-, 3-, 5-, 6-, 7- or 8-2H-benzo[1,4]oxazinyl, 1,3-benzodioxol-5-yl, 1,4-benzodioxan-6-yl, 2,1,3-benzothiadiazol-4- or -5-yl, 2,1,3-benzoxadiazol-5-yl, 2,3-dihydro-2-, -3-, -4- or -5-furyl, 2,5-dihydro-2-, -3-, -4- or 5-furyl, tetrahydro-2- or -3-furyl, 1,3-dioxolan-4-yl, tetrahydro-2- or -3-thienyl, 2,3-dihydro-1-, -2-, -3-, -4- or -5-pyrrolyl, 2,5-dihydro-1-, -2-, -3-, -4- or -5-pyrrolyl, 1-, 2- or 3-pyrrolidinyl, tetrahydro-1-, -2- or -4-imidazolyl, 2,3-dihydro-1-, -2-, -3-, -4- or -5-pyrazolyl, tetrahydro-1-, -3- or -4-pyrazolyl, 1,4-dihydro-1-, -2-, -3- or -4-pyridyl, 1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-1-, -2-, -3-, -4-, -5- or -6-pyridyl, 1-, 2-, 3- or 4-piperidinyl, 2-, 3- or 4-morpholinyl, tetrahydro-2-, -3- or -4-pyranyl, 1,4-dioxanyl, 1,3-dioxan-2-, -4- or -5-yl, hexahydro-1-, -3- or -4-pyridazinyl, hexahydro-1-, -2-, -4- or -5-

pyrimidinyl, 1-, 2- or 3-piperazinyl, 1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-1-, -2-, -3-, -4-, -5-, -6-, -7- or -8-quinolyl, 1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-1-, -2-, -3-, -4-, -5-, -6-, -7- or -8-isoquinolyl, 2-, 3-, 5-, 6-, 7- or 8- 3,4-dihydro-2H-benzo[1,4]oxazinyl, 2,3-methylenedioxyphenyl, 3,4-methylenedioxyphenyl, 2,3-ethylenedioxyphenyl, 3,4-ethylenedioxyphenyl, 3,4-(difluoromethylenedioxy)phenyl, 2,3-dihydrobenzofuran-5- or 6-yl, 2,3-(2-oxomethylenedioxy)phenyl, 3,4-dihydro-2H-1,5-benzodioxepin-6- or -7-yl, 2,3-dihydro-benzofuranyl or 2,3-dihydro-2-oxofuranyl, each optionally substituted by R<sup>3</sup> and/or R<sup>4</sup>.

**18. (New)** A compound of claim 1, wherein R<sup>1</sup> is selected from: phenyl; o-, m- or p-tolyl; o-, m- or p-hydroxyphenyl; o-, m- or p-methoxyphenyl; or, o-, m- or p-fluorophenyl.

**19. (New)** A compound of claim 1, wherein R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> are both H.